

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VOE-00 SCA-01 PPTE-00 SP-02 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PER-03 /023 W

----- 026654

P 241507Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5415

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

UNCLAS BANGUI 0112

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CT

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF ZAIRIAN VISAS

1. EMBASSY OF ZAIRE IN BANGUI INFORMED CONSULAR OFFICER JANUARY 24 THAT IT HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM KINSHASA TO HALT ISSUANCE OF TRANSIT VISAS FOR ZAIRE TO OVERLAND TRAVELERS. ZAIRIAN EMBASSY PRESENTLY ONLY AUTHORIZED TO GRANT VISAS TO PERSONS TRAVELING TO KINSHASA BY AIR. MANY YOUNG OVERLAND TOURISTS ARE THUS STRANDED IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AS OVERLAND TRAFFIC INTO SOUTHERN SUDAN IS PROHIBITED, AND VISAS FOR CONGO VERY RARELY GRANTED. IT IS NOT CLEAR AS TO WHETHER PERSONS ALREADY IN POSSESSION OF VALID VISAS ARE PERMITTED TO ENTER ZAIRE FROM THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

2. ZAIRIAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL ARE BEING COOPERATIVE AND HAVE ASKED US FOR FORMAL NOTE SO THEY CAN GO TO KINSHASA FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. EMBASSY HAS COMPLIED AND ASKED FOR RECONSIDERATION DUE TO LARGE NUMBER OF AMERICANS PRESENTLY TRAVELING IN AFRICA WHO HOPED TO VISIT ZAIRE.

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3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY KINSHASA

CAN DEVELOP ON REASON FOR BAN AND ASSESSMENT HOW LONG IT
LIKELY TO CONTINUE. ALL ADDRESSEES: PLEASE ADVISE OVER-
LAND TOURISTS THAT THEY ARE NOT PRESENTLY ABLE OBTAIN VISAS
FOR ZAIRE IN BANGUI.DALE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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